Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for September 25, 2005

Saskatchewan farmers have combined 53 per cent of the 2005 crop, up from 37 per cent last week, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report. Last year, combining progress stood at 30 per cent; the five-year average is 68 per cent combined.

The southwest continues to be furthest advanced with 81 per cent combined, followed closely by the southeast with 80 per cent combined. The northwest continues to be least advanced with 20 per cent combined. Provincially, winter wheat, fall rye, pea, and lentil crops are all more than 85 per cent combined.

Crop reporters continue to report harvest delays, in the form of rain, dews, frosts, and high humidity. These conditions are causing further downgrading of many crops. Reporters also expressed concern about lodging, sprouting, bleaching, staining, second growth, and soft fields.

During the past week, crop damage was mainly caused by frost, wind, migratory birds, and weathering.

Close to 70 per cent of the province's pastures are in good to excellent condition, improved from the end of August. Availability of livestock water is rated as adequate by 98 per cent of reporters, compared to 100 per cent at the end of August. Some reporters in the southern part of the province indicated that sloughs and dugouts are low or empty.

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Saskatchewan Harvest Progress at September 25, 2005

	% In Swath or Ready to Str.Cmb.			% Combined		
	2005	2004	Average 2000-04	2005	2004	Average 2000-04
Winter wheat	4	13	3	96	81	95
Spring wheat	39	47	18	39	21	68
Durum	23	30	12	67	27	71
Oats	35	39	23	36	12	57
Barley	33	41	16	52	33	71
Fall rye	1	13	3	90	77	90
Triticale	18	19	n/a	53	36	n/a
Flax	28	11	17	22	2	36
Canola	44	73	31	52	20	63
Mustard	23	32	11	70	45	77
Sunflowers	0	0	0	1	0	2
Lentils	9	18	6	86	72	85
Peas	8	14	4	87	78	91
Canary seed	30	25	13	28	9	46
Chickpeas	20	8	n.a.	43	6	n.a.
Total	**32**	**41**	**20**	**53**	**30**	**68**

1 Year Ago

Farmers had combined 30% of the 2004 crop, ranging from 47% in the southwest to 13% in the northeast.

Crop quality continued to be an issue, with damage caused by frost, insects, migratory birds and weathering.

Ongoing harvest concerns included slow ripening, lodging, second growth and the need to dry down crops for storage.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

CANADA – SASKATCHEWAN Crop Insurance

2007-04482/

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

South eastern combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	100	99
Spring wheat	79	55
Durum	84	60
Oats	74	48
Barley	91	74
Fall rye	100	99
Triticale	70	48
Flax	34	13
Canola	87	64
Mustard	94	72
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	96	79
Peas	99	93
Canary seed	55	22
Chickpeas	85	61
Total	**80**	**59**

The south eastern region had sunny days and cool nights with some frost. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 4 mm reported in CD 1a. Wind damage, including scattering swaths, was reported in CDs 1b, 2, and 3ase. Frost damage was reported in CDs 1 and 2b, and may have damaged late-seeded oat crops.

Eighty per cent of the 2005 south eastern crop has been combined and a further 14% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 90% of the winter wheat, fall rye, barley, mustard, lentil, and pea crops have been combined. One week of good weather should see harvest very close to completion. Weathering continued to show up including mildew, sprouting, mould, and staining.

Topsoil moisture on crop land has dried from last week with 3% of reporters rating moisture conditions as surplus compared to 7% last week. On hay and pasture land, 68% of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 74% last week.

Pasture conditions in the southeast have improved since late August, with 55% of the reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 47% at the end of August. Eight per cent of reporters rate pastures as poor. Ninety-seven per cent of reporters rate water supplies as adequate, compared to 100% in late August. Ratings of inadequate water supplies came from CD 3ase, where it is reported that slough and dugouts are low.

Aphids, migratory birds, and mice damaged crops in CD 2b.

Farmers were applying fall herbicide, baling straw, and burning flax straw. Some winter wheat was seeded in CD 3ase. Winter wheat and fall rye were emerging in CD 2b.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

South western combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	99	98
Spring wheat	82	66
Durum	76	57
Oats	70	55
Barley	83	76
Fall rye	85	85
Triticale	59	51
Flax	36	8
Canola	90	76
Mustard	87	78
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	97	88
Peas	99	97
Canary seed	36	25
Chickpeas	30	22
Total	**81**	**67**

Combining weather was variable in the southwest, with some areas being able to work longer days than others. An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation was reported. Damage from frost was reported across much of the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 3asw, 3b, and 4a.

Eighty-one per cent of the 2005 south western crop has been combined and a further 13% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 80% of the winter wheat, spring wheat, barley, fall rye, canola, mustard, lentil, and pea crops are combined. Reporters expect that another week of good weather will see harvest very close to completion. In CD 3bs, the flax is starting to turn green from earlier rains, and in CD 3bn, the chickpeas are greening up and flowering. Quality and yields are variable in the region, with reports ranging from very good yields and quality to below average crops.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land dried from last week, with 2% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 7% last week. Conditions also dried on hay and pasture land with 62% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared to 64% last week.

Pasture conditions in the southwest are better than they were in late August, with 45% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 28% at the end of August. Livestock water availability has deteriorated from late August. Ninety-four per cent of reporters rate water supplies as adequate, compared to 100% in late August. Concerns about water supplies came from CDs 3asw, 3an, and 3bn where sloughs and dugouts are low or empty.

Insect damage came from saw flies and wheat midge. Grasshoppers were reported on the tame hay in CD 3asw. Disease pressures came from mildew and ascochyta blight. The majority of the crop damage came from weathering, including bleaching, mould, lodging, and sprouting. Geese are damaging crops that are still out.

Farmers were applying fall herbicide, summerfallowing, hauling bales, baling straw, fencing, and picking rocks. There was some more seeding of winter wheat and fall rye.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region was cool and dry, with showers in the western part of the region. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with an average high of 4 mm reported in CD 5b. Frost and wind damage were reported across the region. Later seeded crops are expected to be damaged by the frost. Flooding and hail damage were reported in CDs 5b and 6a.

East central combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	91	90
Spring wheat	35	15
Durum	31	14
Oats	28	10
Barley	58	38
Fall rye	99	97
Triticale	31	18
Flax	6	1
Canola	59	32
Mustard	53	26
Sunflowers	3	3
Lentils	81	62
Peas	91	77
Canary seed	7	3
Chickpeas	57	31
Total	49	28

Forty-nine per cent of the 2005 east central crop has been combined and a further 40% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 50% of the winter wheat, barley, fall rye, canola, mustard, lentil, pea, and chickpea crops are combined. Reporters indicate that about three weeks of good weather is needed to take off most of the harvest.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland dried this past week, with 18% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 41% last week. Conditions also improved on hay and pasture land with 82% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 72% last week.

Pasture conditions in the east central region are better than late August, with 69% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 52% at the end of August. Livestock water availability continues to be adequate for all reporters.

Crop damage came from saw flies and migratory birds. Other concerns include mould, sprouting, bleaching, staining, lodging, and second growth. Drying down tough grains was also a concern.

More winter wheat was being seeded as canola and mustard was being harvested. Earlier-seeded winter wheat was emerging.

Farmers applied some fall herbicide.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central region received rains showers and frost during the past week. An average of 11 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, ranging from an average low of 7 mm reported in CD 7a, to an average high of 19 mm reported in CD 7b. Damage from frost and flooding was reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 7b. The rain was expected to delay combining for at least a week in some areas.

West central combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	86	68
Spring wheat	17	10
Durum	14	10
Oats	13	4
Barley	35	24
Fall rye	96	93
Triticale	9	8
Flax	3	0
Canola	36	13
Mustard	25	11
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	64	56
Peas	77	73
Canary seed	8	1
Chickpeas	41	11
Total	31	21

Thirty-one per cent of the 2005 west central crop has been combined and a further 43% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Over 50% of the winter wheat, fall rye, lentil, and pea crops have been combined. Canola was generally taken off dry, while cereal grains were taken off tough.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved during the past week. Fifty-six per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 77% last week. Farmers were still challenged with machinery getting stuck on wet fields. Conditions were wetter on hay and pasture land with 26% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus compared to 20% last week.

Insect damage came from wheat midge and saw flies. Ergot showed up in durum in CD 6b. Geese were damaging crops across the region. Other concerns include staining, bleaching, sprouting, and lodging. Downgrading of pulse and cereal crops continues.

Pasture conditions in the west central region have improved since late August, with 94% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 83% at the end of August. Livestock water availability continues to be adequate for all reporters.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

North eastern combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	82	70
Spring wheat	13	6
Durum	12	1
Oats	17	7
Barley	26	16
Fall rye	64	56
Triticale	n/a	n/a
Flax	0	0
Canola	30	10
Mustard	24	9
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	46	28
Peas	64	50
Canary seed	12	5
Chickpeas	n/a	n/a
Total	24	12

The north eastern region started off sunny and warm, but got cooler and wetter as the week progressed. An average of 8 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with an average high of 18 mm reported in CD 9ae. Flooding damage was reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 8a. Damage from frost and hail was reported in CD 8.

Twenty-four per cent of the 2005 north eastern crop has been combined and a further 51% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 50% of the winter wheat, fall rye, and pea crops have been combined. Some areas need at least two weeks of dry weather before they can resume harvest operations.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland were the same as last week, with 96% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus. Farmers are struggling with soft fields and stuck machinery. Conditions were also the same on hay and pasture land with 70% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus.

Pasture conditions in the northeast region are better than late August, with 95% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 87% at the end of August. Livestock water availability is the same as late August, with all reporters rating water supplies as adequate.

Crop damage came from saw flies, moulds mildew, and migrating birds. Other concerns include sprouting, shattering, bleaching, over-ripening, second growth, and lodging. Crop quality continues to deteriorate with the moisture.

Farmers did some harrowing last week.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

North western combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	n/a	n/a
Spring wheat	10	6
Durum	0	0
Oats	5	1
Barley	17	12
Fall rye	99	90
Triticale	0	0
Flax	0	0
Canola	28	11
Mustard	20	0
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	40	40
Peas	62	49
Canary seed	0	0
Chickpeas	n/a	n/a
Total	20	11

The north western region was cool and windy with more showers during the past week. An average of 13 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with an average high of 19 mm reported in CD 9aw. Frost, flood, and wind damage were reported across the region. Frost is expected to damage the late canola, oats, and barley. Hail damage was reported in CD 9aw.

Twenty per cent of the 2005 north western crop has been combined and a further 45% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 50% of the fall rye and pea crops have been combined. Many farmers have yet to start a combine.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland dried slightly during the past week, with 48% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 56% last week. Wet fields are causing some problems for combines, and trucks cannot drive on the fields. Conditions also dried slightly on hay and pasture land with 12% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus compared to 22% last week.

Pasture conditions in the northwest region are similar to late August, with 88% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent. Livestock water availability is also similar to late August, with 100% of reporters rate water supplies as adequate.

Grasshoppers, bertha armyworm larvae, sawflies, gophers, and migrating birds damaged crops in the northwest. Other concerns include sprouting, bleaching, second growth, and lodging.

Sask. combining progress

	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	96	93
Spring wheat	39	25
Durum	67	49
Oats	36	20
Barley	52	38
Fall rye	90	89
Triticale	53	39
Flax	22	7
Canola	52	29
Mustard	70	53
Sunflowers	1	1
Lentils	86	73
Peas	87	80
Canary seed	28	12
Chickpeas	43	29
Total	53	37

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending September 24, 2005

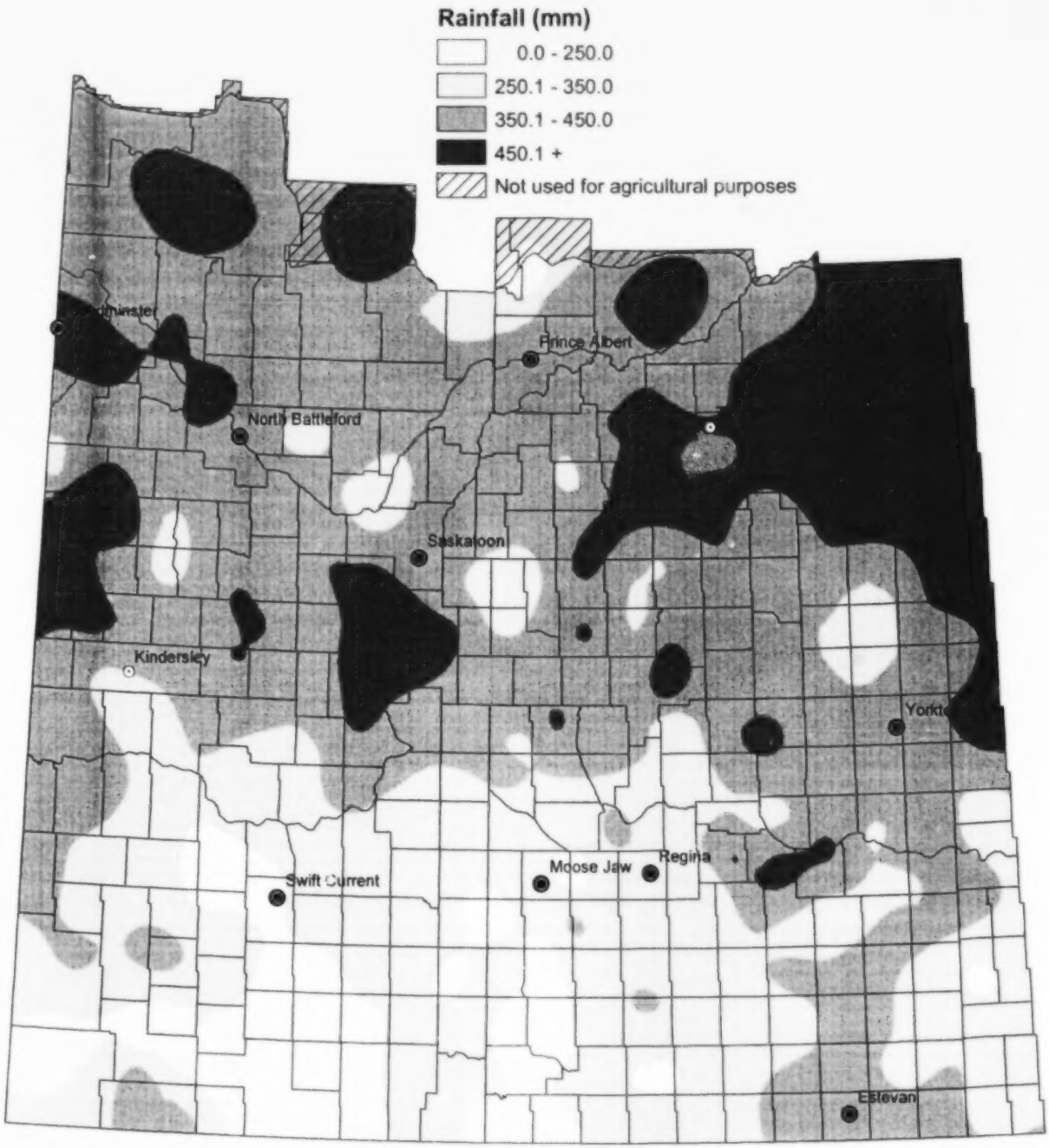
Crop Dist.	No.	Municipality Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	1	Argyle	2	354
	2	Mount Pleasant	6	351
	3 B	Enniskillen	4	378
	32	Reciprocity	7	299
	33 A	Moose Creek	8	381
	34	Browning	2	340
	63 A	Moose Mountain	4	271
	63 B	Moose Mountain	2	260
	64	Brock	3	370
	65	Tecumseh	NIL	389
1B	95	Golden West	TR	360
	123	Silverwood	NIL	407
	124	Kingsley	NIL	382
	125	Chester	TR	293
	151 B	Rocanville	NIL	414
	153	Willowdale	NIL	323
	154	Elcapo	NIL	310
	155	Wolseley	TR	416
2A	36	Cymri	1	400
	66	Griffin	TR	272
	67	Weyburn	NIL	282
	68	Brokenshell	NIL	282
	96	Fillmore	NIL	371
	97	Wellington	NIL	339
	99	Caledonia	NIL	358
2B	126	Montmartre	NIL	334
	127	Francis	1	426
	129	Bratt's Lake	NIL	253
	131	Baildon	1	360
	156 A	Indian Head	NIL	481
	156 B	Indian Head	1	416
	157	South Qu'appelle	NIL	457
	158	Edenwold	0	301
	160	Pense	NIL	223
	161	Moose Jaw	NIL	305
3ASE	8	Lake Alma	2	290
	9	Surprise Valley	NIL	278
	38 A	Laurier	NIL	342
	39 A	The Gap	NIL	214
	39 B	The Gap	NIL	264
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	NIL	260
	12	Poplar Valley	NIL	188
	40	Bengough	NIL	275
	42	Willow Bunch	NIL	267
	43 A	Old Post	NIL	253
	44	Waverley	NIL	293
	70	Key West	NIL	263
	71 A	Excel	NIL	240
	71 B	Excel	NIL	188
	73 B	Stonehenge	NIL	276
3AN	101 A	Terrell	NIL	188
	102	Lake Johnston	NIL	276
	103	Sutton	NIL	227
	132	Hillsborough	NIL	208
	134	Shamrock	NIL	322
	164	Chaplin	NIL	260
	193	Eyebrow	NIL	312
	194	Enfield	NIL	309
3BS	17 A	Val Marie	NIL	190
	17 B	Val Marie	NIL	184
	45	Mankota	NIL	198
	46 A	Glen Mcpherson	NIL	204
	75 A	Pinto Creek	NIL	163
	75 B	Pinto Creek	NIL	198
	76 A	Auvergne	NIL	153
	76 B	Auvergne	NIL	186
	77	Wise Creek	NIL	208
	78 A	Grassy Creek	NIL	253
	78 B	Grassy Creek	NIL	175
	78 C	Grassy Creek	NIL	253
	105	Glenbain	TR	335
	106	Whiska Creek	NIL	205
	108	Bone Creek	TR	282
3BN	135	Lavtonia	NIL	322
	136	Coulee	NIL	310
	138	Webb	TR	266
	166	Excelsior	NIL	306
	167	Sask. Landing	NIL	308
	225	Canaan	NIL	351
	226	Victory	TR	376
	228 A	Lacadena	2	307
	228 B	Lacadena	TR	340
	256	King George	NIL	357
4A	49 A	White Valley	NIL	211
	49 B	White Valley	NIL	344
	51	Reno	1	195
	109 B	Carmichael	NIL	367
	110	Piapot	NIL	342
	111 A	Maple Creek	TR	364
	111 B	Maple Creek	NIL	352
4B	139	Gull Lake	NIL	273
	141	Big Stick	TR	334
	142	Enterprise	NIL	357
	169	Pittville	NIL	247
	171	Fox Valley	NIL	319
	229	Miry Creek	3	263
	232	Deer Forks	NIL	371
5A	152	Spy Hill	NIL	304
	181	Langenburg	NIL	320
	183	Fertile Belt	NIL	416
	184 A	Grayson	NIL	333
	184 C	Grayson	TR	383
	185	Mcleod	NIL	461
	186	Abernethy	NIL	363
	211	Churchbridge	TR	386
	213	Saltcoats	2	365
	214	Cana	NIL	390
	241	Calder	NIL	553
	243	Wallace	NIL	431
	245 A	Garry	TR	370
	245 B	Garry	2	411
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	1	468
	247	Kellross	NIL	468
	248	Touchwood	NIL	328
5B	271	Cote	1	426
	276	Foam Lake	NIL	421
	277	Emerald	NIL	375
	303	Keys	2	414
	304	Buchanan	2	264
	307	Elfros	4	398
	308	Big Quill	TR	444
	335	Hazel Dell	3	433
	336	Sasman	6	358
	337	Lakeview	8	379
	338	Lakeside	5	367
	366 A	Kelvington	7	404
	366 B	Kelvington	6	408
	367	Ponass Lake	5	449
6A	189	Lumsden	NIL	371
	190 A	Dufferin	NIL	331
	190 B	Dufferin	NIL	289
	190 C	Dufferin	NIL	296
	219 C	Longlaketon	1	362
	220	Mckillop	NIL	343
	221	Sarnia	1	354
	251	Big Arm	1	472
	252	Arm River	TR	334
	279 B	Mount Hope	NIL	467
	280	Wreford	TR	373
	281 A	Wood Creek	3	346
	309	Prairie Rose	3	345
	310	Usborne	TR	461
	312	Morris	1	359
	339 B	Leroy	5	352
	340 A	Wolverine	3	405
	341	Viscount	2	347
	343	Blucher	2	341
6B	254	Loreburn	TR	395
	283	Rosedale	1	466
	284	Rudy	2	479
	285	Fertile Valley	4	469
	314	Dundurn	3	450
	344	Corman Park	10	363
	345	Vanscoy	6	463
	346	Perdue	11	431
	376 A	Eagle Creek	19	432
	376 B	Eagle Creek	22	436
	403	Rosthern	9	389
	404	Laird	20	337
7A	259	Snipe Lake	TR	362
	260	Newcombe	1	308
	287	St. Andrews	4	422
	290	Kindersley	5	344
	292	Milton	8	405
	317 B	Marriott	8	460
	317 C	Marriott	8	367
	318 A	Mountain View	6	396
	318 B	Mountain View	7	471
	319	Winslow	13	387
	321	Prairiedale	12	442
	322	Antelope Park	8	419
7B	347 A	Biggar	25	416
	347 B	Biggar	15	374
	350 A	Mariposa	15	303
	350 B	Mariposa	15	343
	352	Heart's Hill	10	615
	377 A	Glenside	30	444
	377 B	Glenside	25	441
	378 A	Rosemount	26	428
	378 B	Rosemount	20	397
	379	Reford	13	398
	382	Eye Hill	17	616
	409	Buffalo	13	398
8A	395	Porcupine	5	544
	397	Barrier Valley	12	537
	398	Pleasantdale	5	588
	428	Star City	5	591
	456	Arborfield	3	571
	457 A	Connaught	12	430
	457 B	Connaught	5	355
	458	Willow Creek	10	403
	487	Nipawin	10	379
8B	369	St. Peter	9	477
	370	Humboldt	2	477
	371	Bayne	3	376
	372	Grant	5	383
	373 B	Aberdeen	4	309
	399	Lake Lenore	4	510
	402	Fish Creek	8	421
	429 A	Flett's Springs	6	459
	429 B	Flett's Springs	7	470
	430	Invergordon	6	356
	431 A	St. Louis	7	396
	459	Kinistino	9	395
9AE	461	Prince Albert	24	450
	488	Torch River	12	506
	520 B	Paddockwood	19	358
9AW	406	Mayfield	24	400
	435	Redberry	19	376
	436	Douglas	12	317
	463	Duck Lake	14	440
	466	Meeting Lake	17	430
	467	Round Hill	18	400
	493	Shellbrook	25	359
	494	Canwood	22	358
	496	Spiritwood	17	397
	497	Medstead	22	367
	555	Big River	19	531
9B	438 A	Battle River	24	494
	438 B	Battle River	13	381
	468 A	Meota	25	463
	472	Wilton	12	529
	498 A	Parkdale	12	362
	498 B	Parkdale	8	364
	499	Mervin	8	471
	501 A	Frenchman Butte	3	410
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	4	370
	501 C	Frenchman Butte	4	407
	502	Britannia	5	464
	561	Loon Lake	NIL	474
	588 A	Meadow Lake	NIL	376
	588 B	Meadow Lake	2	475
	588 D	Meadow Lake	4	

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

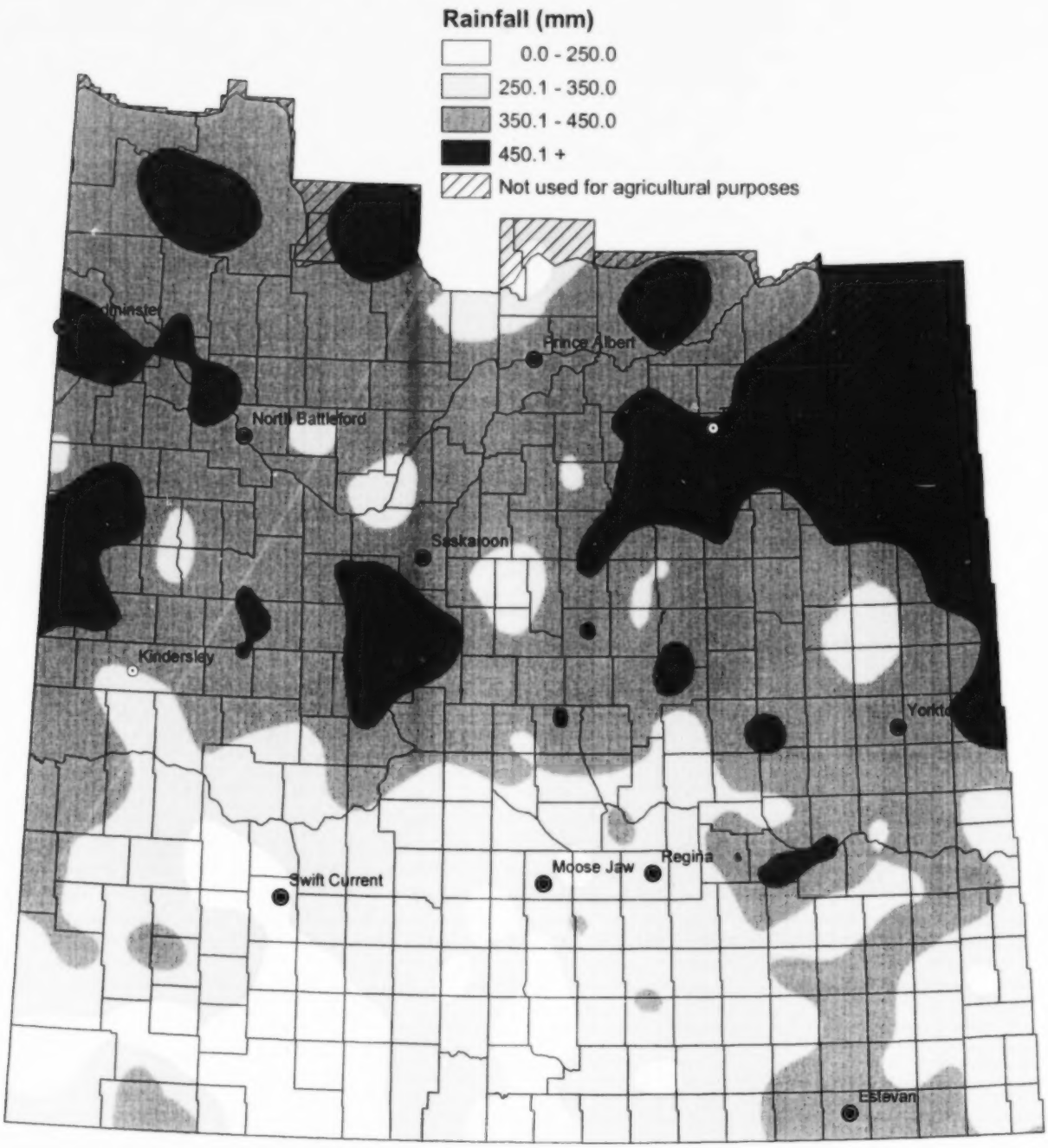
* incomplete

Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

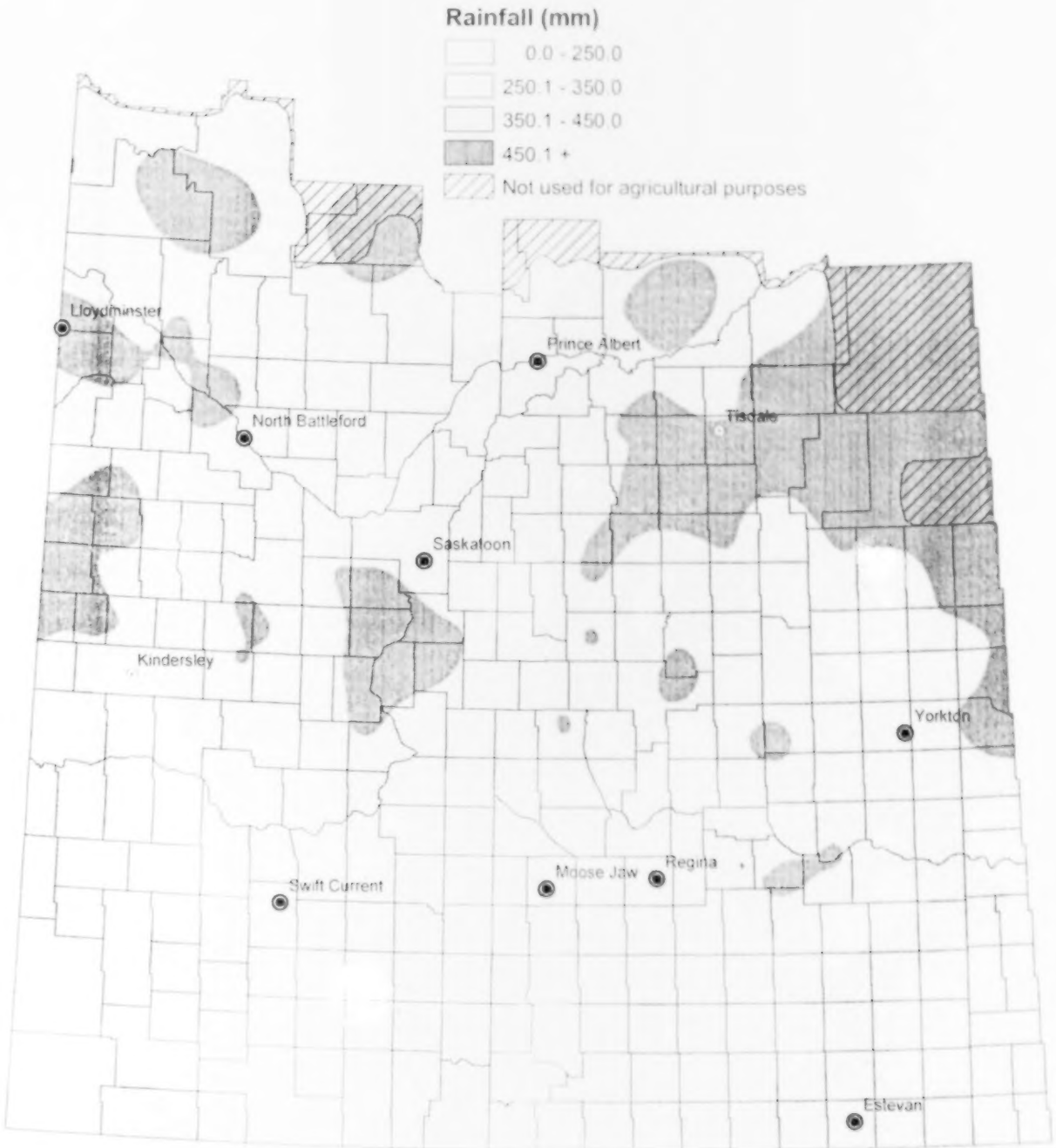
Weekly Rainfall
for the week ending September 24, 2005



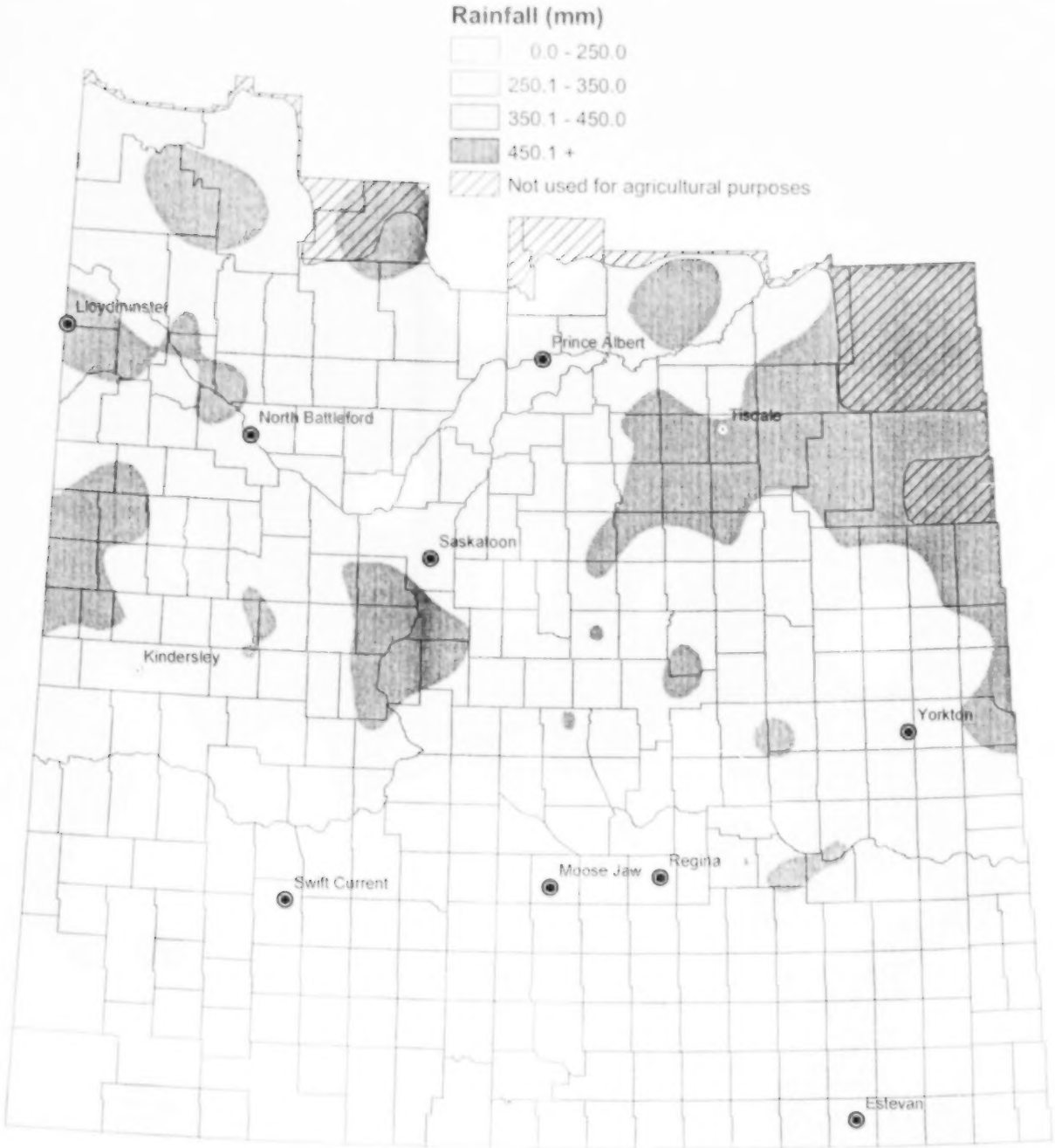
Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2005
To: September 24, 2005



Weekly Rainfall
for the week ending September 24, 2005



Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2005
To: September 24, 2005



Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities